

News briefs

Bush ignites protest with visit

EDMONTON (CUP) – WHILE OVER 200 protesters greeted George W. Bush's arrival at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton last week, a few University of Alberta students took the chance to make a similar statement down the side of one of their campus's most prominent buildings.

The words "Arrest Bush" hung visibly from the side of the upper facade of U of A's Tory Building throughout the day of the event. And although the students who hung the sign were not directly affiliated with the groups that gathered at the event itself, they, too, protested against human rights violations—predominantly those surrounding the Abu Ghraib prison scandal—and the cost to taxpayers associated with Bush's visit.

Both Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch in 2005 singled out Abu Ghraib as an egregious human rights violation on the part of the Bush administration. Bush's security for four of his five engagements are to cost Canadian taxpayers half a million dollars.

—Sean Steels, The Gateway

Got extra cash? Study in Ontario

HAMILTON (CUP) – NOVA SCOTIA NO longer has the highest undergraduate tuition rates in the country. Statistics Canada announced last week that Ontario has now taken that prize at an average of \$5,951 annually, while Quebec undergraduates paid the lowest tuition fees this past year at an average of \$2,272.

Statistics Canada issued a news release on Canadian university tuition fees Oct. 20. It made provincial comparisons of tuition fees and discussed the costs of education for graduate students, dentistry students, and international students within Canada.

Canadian full-time undergraduate students experienced the same 3.6 per cent increase in tuition for the 2009–10 academic year that they did in the previous year. Estimated nationally, graduate students experienced a higher raise in tuition fees of 4.7 per cent.

In both the 2008–09 and 2009–10 academic years, undergraduate students in dentistry paid the highest tuition fees, at an average of \$13,988. The second-highest undergraduate discipline was medicine, at an average of \$10,216.

The national increase in tuition fees for international students in undergraduate programs was 7.1 per cent, at an average of \$15,674, found in all provinces but Newfoundland and Labrador. International graduate student tuition fees increased by an average of 5.1 per cent from the previous academic year in most provinces.

—Selma Al-Samarrai, The Silhouette



photo by Alex Martin

Student Appeal Centre

Julie Bortolotti | Fulcrum Contributor

Need to know!

IF YOU FIND yourself upset about a poor grade, and you are not getting satisfactory results after speaking with your professor, it may be time to take the next step and check out the Student Appeal Centre.

The centre was created in 2004 after many U of O students had grievances against faculty or administration and needed assistance from an outside party.

Mireille Gervais, the current director of the Student Appeal Centre, has worked there for over two years. Gervais started as a volunteer, then became a part-time staff member, and now works full-time.

"[The centre offers] advice and representation for students [and] information on university rules and regulations," said Gervais.

Students are encouraged to book an appointment at the centre; however, walk-in meetings are also available. Students may go to the office to talk to someone about their situation and receive advice on their next steps. Gervais stressed that it is always the student's choice whether or not to follow the centre's advice. It is ultimately the student's decision to do what he or she feels is best.

"We see students who have been given wrong information and are tired of dealing with the [U of O] administration," said Gervais.

According to Gervais, the busiest times of the year for the centre are January, May, and September.

If you need some assistance dealing with academic issues pertaining to professors or the administration, drop by the Student Appeal Centre located in room 101 of the Unicentre, or visit sfuo.ca/services/appeals. The Student Appeal Centre is open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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The Fulcrum Publishing Society (FPS) is filling a vacant seat on its Board of Directors.

The position of disinterested student must be filled by a University of Ottawa student with an active, valid student number. The student must not have ever been employed by either the FPS or any University of Ottawa student campus organization.

If you are interested in applying for the disinterested student position on the FPS Board of Directors, please send a cover letter and resumé to board@thefulcrum.ca.

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- Sit in on a selection of classes
- Take a tour of the campus
- Visit the College Information Program (CIP) with displays by many Ontario colleges and the Ontario College Application Service (OCAS)

For more information and to register online:
algonquincollege.com/openhouse2009

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9:00 AM – 1:00 PM and
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